What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

detecting a user input;

in response to the detection of a user input, generating a graphical user interface before the operating system has booted;

receiving an input from the user through said graphical user interface; and

booting the operating system.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein detecting a user input includes detecting the operation of a push button.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein generating a graphical user interface includes generating a graphical user interface using a graphics controller.

4. The method of claim 3 including storing information for generating said graphical user interface on an option memory.

5. The method of claim 1 including using boot code running on a graphics controller to generate the graphical user interface.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein generating a graphical user interface includes generating a graphical user interface to enable the user to input a password.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein generating a graphical user interface includes generating an on-screen keyboard.

8. The method of claim 1 including receiving inputs from the user through the graphical user interface without a keyboard.

9. The method of claim 1 including authenticating a user and allowing the operating system to boot if the user has been authenticated.

10. The method of claim 9 including receiving a password entered without a keyboard using the graphical user interface.

11. An article comprising a medium storing instructions that enables a processor-based system to:

detect a user input;

generate a graphical user interface before the operating system has booted;

receive an input from the user through said graphical user interface; and

boot the operating system.

12. The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the processor-based system to detect the operation of a push button.

13. The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the processor-based system to generate a graphical user interface using a graphics controller.

14. The article of claim 13 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the processor-based system to generate said graphical user interface on an option memory.

15. The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the processor-based system to use the boot code running on a graphics controller to generate the graphical user interface.

16. The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the processor-based system

to generate a graphical user interface to enable the user to input a password.

17. The article of claim 16 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the processor-based system to generate an on-screen keyboard.

18. The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the processor-based system to receive inputs from the user through the graphical user interface without a keyboard.

19. The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the processor-based system to authenticate a user and allow the operating system to boot if the user has been authenticated.

20. The article of claim 19 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the processor-based system to receive a password entered without a keyboard using the graphical user interface.

21. A system comprising:

a processor;

a storage coupled to said processor; and

a graphics controller coupled to said storage to generate a graphical user interface before the operating system has booted.

22. The system of claim 21 wherein said system does not include a keyboard.

23. The system of claim 21 including a touch screen display.

24. The system of claim 21 wherein said storage stores instructions that enable the processor to automatically boot the operating system when a user input is received through a graphical user interface before the operating system is booted.

25. The system of claim 21 including an option read only memory that stores information to generate a graphical user interface for the entry of a password prior to booting of a operating system.